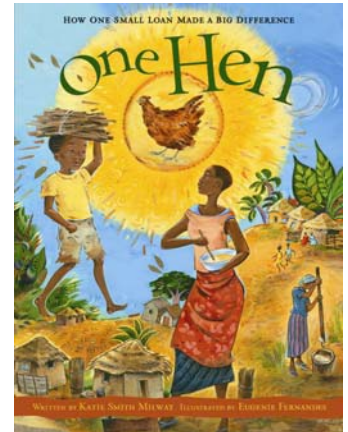


Lesson Plan*:

One Hen: Biography of a Boy in Ghana Who Builds an Egg Business (*with thanks to City Year Boston)

OBJECTIVES BY SUBJECT:

1. **Social Studies:** The objective is to show real life in Ghana, West Africa – the colors, countryside and, most of all a range of occupations from petty trading to teaching, health care, banking and business. Compare what children and parents in Ghana do to what children and parents in your community do – find similarities and differences. See www.onehen.org "For Teachers & Librarians" tab for "My House & Yours" (grade 1-4) and "Rights of Children to Education" (Gr 5-7) activity.
2. **Language Arts:** The objective is to provide an example of a story based on a true life; predict the story parts (setting, characters, plot problems and solutions) and identify them as they present in the story. See www.onehen.org "Learn the Story" icon to watch 6 minute video of real biography of Kojo after reading the book. Do the "Kids Can Change the World" biography research activity on "For Teachers & Librarians" tab of www.onehen.org.
3. **Math/Economics:** Trace out the math required for the main character to buy a hen and sell eggs and make a profit to repay his loan and build a business. See www.onehen.org "For Teachers & Librarians" tab for additional activities: "Making the World a Better Place" (Gr 1-4) or "Start a Microcredit Agency" activity. (Gr 5-7). See "Meet Real People" icon on onehen.org for more stories of successful entrepreneurs.
4. **Community Service:** Learn how one small loan changed a life, family, community & country, then undertake a class fundraiser to sponsor another micro-entrepreneur in Africa like One Hen's main character Kojo. See www.onehen.org "For Teachers & Librarians" tab "Fundraising Kit" for activities and profiles of entrepreneurs to sponsor.
5. **World Resources:** Identify resources throughout the story that are traded locally versus regionally and globally. See www.onehen.org "For Teacher & Librarians" tab "To Market, To Market", and "This is the Orange" activities.
6. **Geography:** Situate Ghana within West Africa, West Africa within Africa and Africa within the world. See www.onehen.org "For Teacher & Librarians" tab "Where in the World" (Gr 1-4) activity.
7. **Environment:** Identify all the examples of reuse and recycling in the story (e.g the hen's wash-powder box nest, composting, etc.) See www.onehen.org "For Teachers & Librarians" tab "This is the Orange" activity.



TIME: 45 minutes

AGE GROUP: Grades 1-7. First & second grade will want to abridge the story slightly by reading "rainbow" (short) text for page spreads on building a family, benefiting employees and benefiting the town. Older students will want to do a www.onehen.org research activity for "older readers" in conjunction with the reading.

APPLIED SUBJECTS:

Social Studies (African culture), *Language Arts* (biography), *Math/Economics* (microfinance), *Community Service* (fundraising); *World Resources* (sustainable development); *Geography* (West Africa); *Environment* (reuse, recycling)



MATERIALS:

A copy of the *One Hen* book
Internet access and projector, optional

Optional space set up:

As the students enter the classroom you may choose to have www.onehen.org projected in the classroom. The website provides African music as an additional attention grabber.

PROCEDURE

Brainstorm Exercise – 5 minutes

1. Choose the relevant subject matter from the *One Hen* story you wish to focus the lesson on. Options include biographies, Ghana, microfinance, public service, geography, world resources, environment etc.
2. Begin your lesson with a warm up exercise. Ask the students to do a brainstorm on the particular subject you have chosen to focus on with the book. For example, if your lesson is going to focus on Ghana, have the students brainstorm what they think or know about the country. You may choose one or two brainstorms on biographies, Ghana, culture, etc.

Example:

Ghana

- What People Wear
- What People Eat
- What People do for Work
- What Kids do during the Day
- Capital and other cities



Online Activity – 5 minutes

1. Go to www.onehen.org and scroll to "Test Your Memory" on the home page to play the card matching game. Depending on age of group choose the appropriate level. (Level 1 (grade 1-2), Level 2 (Grade 3-4) or Level 3 (Grade 5-7). Each image on the memory card is an illustration from the book. After they have played the game the students can hunt for the same images as you read them the story. At the end of the game, the students will get a "Congratulations You have earn xxxx "beads" and have a choice whether to donate them to help an entrepreneur, or save them to play another game. Save them for now and leave the screen up as you will come back to the "Quiz Game" after you read the story.

Book Reading & Video – 25 minutes

1. Begin reading the story aloud to the students.
2. Many of the facts the students brainstorm will come up in the story. You can use these opportunities to make connections. Students may want to go on a "scavenger hunt" to see if

what they predicted for facts appear in the story as they listen or if they can spot the pictures from the memory game. You can ask them to raise their hands (but not call out!) when a fact they have discussed appears as you read the story.

3. As you read the story, there are many places to pause and build connections with the students. Some examples include:

- When Kojo needs to decide how to spend his egg money on page 12, stop and ask kids what they think he should spend it on (before reading what his mother advises.)
- When Kojo learns to make compost on page 15, ask whether any of the kids make compost at their homes? And how?

4. After you finish the story, turn to page 28, and show them the picture of the real life Kojo. Ask if they'd like to see a video of his story (if teaching biography, you can emphasize that the story is literary biography, or realistic fiction, the movie is autobiography.) Click on "back" on the "Congratulations" screen, then on the "Learn the Story" icon on the home page and click on the video link (6 min video).

5. After the movie, ask how many children have started their own businesses? And what kinds? (Many will raise their hands and make the connection with lemonade stands, babysitting, raking leaves, etc.

Online Activity – 10 minutes

Microfinance nonprofit Opportunity International has partnered with the One Hen website to generate funds to support microfinancing for individuals in Africa. This next online activity will provide the students with an opportunity to play more online games about the book. By doing so, they can donate virtual beads that generate a real life donation courtesy of Opportunity International. This activity costs no money for your students, but it does give them a chance to send a real donation to a real entrepreneur in Africa on behalf of Opportunity International.

1. Conclude with an online quiz. Click on the "Take a Quiz" icon to the right of "Learn the Story", and choose a level depending on the age group. After completing the quiz the website will add beads to the total earned through the matching game played before the reading, and ask students if they would like to donate all the virtual beads they have earned so far to a real life entrepreneur.

2. Choose "donate" and you will automatically move to the "Make a Difference" icon and see your beads flowing into a jar. When the donation completes, a screen will open showing you the microentrepreneur who has been helped and the stage he has brought his business to via "bead" loans. You can click a button to visit his growing business and scroll back to preceding chapters of his story. Meanwhile, your "bead donation" will have triggered a real life donation from Opportunity International to a real entrepreneur in Africa.

Optional Follow up Activities:

The *One Hen* lesson does not need to end here. Classrooms have started with the lesson plan and generated service learning projects such as incubating and selling chicks or growing and selling vegetables.

Or you could have your classroom start a fundraiser such as a bake sale. Provide groups of students the opportunity to turn the bake sale profits into a larger profit with an additional



“business” idea. You can literally replicate microfinance with your students. The profits could even be donated to a cause in Africa like they are on the website.

Below are some additional ideas you’ll find in the Fundraising Kit on the “For Teachers & Librarians” tab of www.onehen.org:

Lemonade Stand Challenge: Pick a day, or week, to operate a lemonade stand. Help your kids’ plan what the stand will look like, find lemonade recipes, and raise money to purchase ingredients. Then, open up for business!

After your lemonade stand project has been completed, add up how much money they earned. Your kids can decide as a group which one of Opportunity International’s microlending regions they want to donate their earnings to – Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe or Latin America.

Henny Penny

A simple fundraiser for schools, libraries and families. Fill Hen-shaped banks with pennies and other coins, and then donate your collection to Opportunity International to help someone like Kojo start a business.

Add a Hen Logo

Add a One Hen logo to your school/class t-shirts and increase the price by \$1. Keep the majority of proceeds for your school and donate the extra dollar to Opportunity International/One Hen.

Web Game Contest

Assign each class one half hour in the computer lab to play the One Hen Web site games. Make it into a competition; the class that wins and donates the most virtual beads wins a prize.

Incentives:

- Visual Representation – for each dollar your school raises cut-out a paper chicken and hang it up in your library. You can tape them to walls, hang them from ceilings or make paper chicken chains! This is a great way for students to see how much money they have raised as a school.
- Principals or teachers do something after x amount of money is raised – i.e., shave heads, wear clothing backwards, etc.
- Extra recess time



Kwabena Darko "Kojo" at his chicken farm in Ghana.